

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|---------------|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| APPLICANT(S): | Prentice                                      | CONFIRMATION NO.: | 2604                |
| SERIAL NO.:   | 10/598,313                                    | ART UNIT:         | 1797                |
| FILING DATE:  | June 25, 2008                                 | EXAMINER:         | Therkorn, Ernest G. |
| TITLE:        | A Device for Holding a Column or Cartridge... |                   |                     |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT OF RESTRICTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on May 18, 2010, Applicants submit this Response. Applicants petition for a three-month extension of time for response until September 18, 2010, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 23-0503. Applicants believe that no additional fees are due, but the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 23-0503.

Claims 1-19, of which claims 1 and 11 are independent, are pending in the application.

**Election of Invention**

The Office action requires election of a single one of two identified inventions associated with the following groups of claims: Group I, claims 1-10, drawn to a device; and Group 2, claims 11-19, drawn to a method of minimizing band spreading. Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, drawn to claims 1-10.

**Election of Species, I**

The Office action requires election of a single one of identified species associated with positioning means, such as an arm, a slide, interfitting slide elements, flexible conduit elements, and a hinge, which are all considered by the Examiner to be distinct. Applicants elect, with

traverse, the species associated with a hinge. It appears that claims 1-5, 8 and 10 are readable on the hinge species.

Election of Species, II

The Office action requires election of a single one of identified species associated with a pump, sampler injector, or a combined module of a pump and sample injector, which are all considered by the Examiner to be distinct. Applicants elect, with traverse, the species associated with a pump. It appears that claims 1-10 are readable on the pump species.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2010  
Reg. No.: 45,054

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